

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE January 25, 2019

Asolo Rep Announces Panel for THE CRUCIBLE IllumiNation Event on February 9; Season Packages and Pay What You Can Tickets Available

WHAT:

Asolo Rep's **THE CRUCIBLE** IllumiNation event will be held on Saturday, February 9. A stimulating series of theatre and conversation exploring the topical and social themes threaded throughout the season, IllumiNation events begin one hour prior to curtain with a ticketed reception on the mezzanine, continue with the performance, and conclude with a free, open-to-the-public conversation.

For each IllumiNation performance, a block of seats will be held in the mezzanine and balcony for PAY WHAT YOU CAN (minimum of \$5 per ticket). These tickets can only be reserved on the day of the show starting at 10am by phone or at the box office.

The panel for *THE CRUCIBLE* IllumiNation event will feature Natalie Lampkin, founder and Executive Director of Creative Counseling Solutions of Sarasota, Dr. Brendan Goff, Assistant Professor of History at New College, and Judge Charles Williams, Chief Judge of the 12th Judicial Circuit.

WHO:

Natalie Lampkin is the founder and Executive Director of Creative Counseling Solutions of Sarasota, Inc. and practices as a licensed mental health counselor in Sarasota County. Natalie holds a Bachelors of Arts Degree in Psychology with a minor in Education, and a Master of Arts degree in mental health counseling, and in addition to her license holds several certifications. Outside of private practice, Natalie has worked as a therapist for local non-profit agencies, and as the Director of Education and Prevention Services and Vice President of Clinical Services for a local non-profit outpatient center. Natalie has over 15 years experience in the field of mental health and has extensive experience working with young children, adolescents, adults and families. Natalie also collaborates with several agencies throughout Sarasota and Manatee Counties providing training, education and consultation.

Dr. Brendan Goff received his Ph.D. in History at the University of Michigan in 2008 (with a focus on modern U.S. international history). Before coming to New College of

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Florida, Dr. Goff held a post-doctoral fellowship at the Eisenberg Institute for Historical Studies at the University of Michigan and then served as a lecturer in the Honors Program at the University of Michigan. Before entering the Ph.D. program at Michigan, Dr. Goff was a freelance English teacher in Madrid, Spain; worked in a major bank in New York City; studied philosophy in Glasgow, Scotland; assisted in the government and community affairs division of the Children's Defense Fund in Washington, D.C., and attended seminary.

Judge Charles Williams was born in North Carolina, raised in St. Petersburg, Florida and graduated from Howard University in Washington D.C.; He earned his law degree from the University of Florida. He is a Circuit Court Judge in the 12th Judicial Circuit which includes Sarasota, Manatee and Desoto Counties, Florida. His past awards include the Community Service Award from the Manatee County Bar Association, and the Manatee County NAACP Public Service Award. He is a recipient of the Sarasota County NAACP 2014 Public Service Award and also the recipient of the Sarasota County Branch NAACP's 2014 Lifetime Achievement Award. He is the recipient of the C.L. McKaig Award, presented by the Sarasota County Bar Association in recognition and appreciation of his tireless dedication to promoting the ideals of equality, justice, and professionalism. Judge Williams has been elected by his fellow judges to serve as Chief Judge for the 12th Judicial Circuit. When he is not involved in his judicial duties, Judge Williams writes, directs, and produces documentary films. He currently sits on the Board of Directors of Embracing Our Differences, Florida Studio Theatre.

WHEN:

Saturday, February 9 Pre-show reception: 1pm Performance of *THE CRUCIBLE*: 2pm Discussion to follow the performance

WHERE:

Asolo Repertory Theatre 5555 N. Tamiami Trail Sarasota, FL 34243 Pre-show reception and a post-show community conversation held on the Mezzanine. Performance in the Mertz Theatre. The Crucible IllumiNation Page 3 of 5

HOW:

IllumiNation Ticket Packages:

4 Play Package

Section A: \$264 (\$66 per ticket) Section B: \$204 (\$51 per ticket) Section C: \$128 (\$32 per ticket) Section D: \$88 (\$22 per ticket)

3 Play Package

Section A: \$204 (\$68 per ticket) Section B: \$159 (\$53 per ticket) Section C: \$102 (\$34 per ticket) Section D: \$72 (\$24 per ticket)

For each IllumiNation performance, a block of seats will be held in the mezzanine and balcony for PAY WHAT YOU CAN (minimum of \$5 per ticket - phone fees apply). These tickets can only be reserved on the day of the show starting at 10am. Reservations made by phone (941-351-8000) or at the main box office.

The pre-performance reception is free for series ticket package holders and \$10 for ticket holders to that evening's performance. Asolo Rep subscribers are welcome to change their performance dates to the IllumiNation Series dates and pay the additional \$10 fee for the pre-show reception. Reception availability is limited. Please contact the box office directly at 941.351.8000. The post-performance discussion is free and open to all.

Click <u>here</u> for tickets and more information or call the box office at 941.351.8000.

The IllumiNation series is made possible, in part, with support from the Koski Family Foundation, Morton's Gourmet Market & Catering, and The Observer.

ABOUT THE CRUCIBLE

By Arthur Miller Directed by Michael Donald Edwards January 9 - March 10

Spring, 1692. In the black of night, a Salem village reverend discovers a group of teenage girls dancing devilishly around a fire in the woods. When his daughter exhibits strange catatonic symptoms the following morning, the townsfolk are frenzied with tales

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of witchcraft. Deep-seated jealousy, deadly accusations, and seething resentments pit neighbor against neighbor and a deeply religious community is thrown into turmoil. A timeless parable about morality and the devastating consequences when fear takes root in a community, Arthur Miller penned **The Crucible** as a thinly veiled condemnation of the Communist "witch hunt" of his time. The play won the 1953 Tony® Award for Best Play and is considered a landmark work in the canon of American drama.

2018-19 IllumiNation Events

The Crucible

Saturday, February 9 1pm reception 2pm performance Post-show discussion

A Doll's House, Part 2 Wednesday, March 6 6:30pm reception 7:30pm performance Post-show discussion

Sweat

Contains strong language and violence Saturday, April 6 1pm reception 2pm performance Post-show discussion

The Cake

In the Cook Theatre Wednesday, April 24 6:30pm reception 7:30pm performance Post-show discussion

ABOUT ASOLO REP

Now in its 60th season, Asolo Repertory Theatre is recognized as one of the premier professional theatres in America and one of the largest in the Southeastern United States. One of the few select theatres in the nation that performs in true rotating repertory, Asolo Rep's highly skilled acting company and extensive craftsmanship bring to life this unique performance method that gives audiences the opportunity to see multiple productions in the span of a few days. Asolo Rep presents up to 10 productions each season including contemporary and classic works and provocative musical theatre experiences. A theatre district in and of itself, Asolo Rep is committed to expanding its reach into the community, furthering its collaboration with the best theatre artists working in the industry today and cultivating new artists through its affiliation with the FSU/Asolo Conservatory for Actor Training. Under the leadership of Producing Artistic Director Michael Donald Edwards and Managing Director Linda DiGabriele, Asolo Rep's ambitious theatrical offerings and ground-breaking education and community programming engage audiences and ensure its lasting legacy for future generations.

MEDIA CONTACT:

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